



Gulf Coast
Ecosystem
Restoration
Council

Laguna Madre Watershed

Abandoned Oil Well Plugging and Reclamation
(DOI_RESTORE_003_049-051_Cat1)



Project Name: Plug Abandoned Oil and Gas Wells – Implementation

Cost: Category 1: \$1,317,567

Responsible Council Member: Department of the Interior

Partnering Council Member: State of Texas

Project Details: Unplugged abandoned oil and gas wells pose numerous risks to human safety and the environment. These risks increase with time due to continued deterioration, as does the cost to address them.

The National Park Service, working with the State of Texas, will plug and reclaim 11 abandoned oil and gas wells located in Padre Island National Seashore. These wells have the following identifiers: Tract 980S #1, Tract 1008S #1, Dunn McCampbell A-4, Dunn McCampbell 11-4, Dunn McCampbell A-8, State Tract 991-S #1, Dunn-Peach #1, Dunn-Peach #4ST, Dunn-Peach #5, Dunn-Peach #6, and Plug Dunn-Peach #7C/7T.

The 11 abandoned wells will be plugged in accordance with standards established by the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Activities: Plugging operations include removing the tubing, packer, and other completion equipment; pumping cement across producing zones; and placing cement plugs at various depths to protect freshwater zones. Finally, a cement plug will be set at the surface to cap the well, and wellhead equipment will be cut off. A permanent abandonment marker will be placed to identify the well's location, when appropriate.

Environmental Benefits: Plugging of these abandoned oil and gas wells will help eliminate the potential for more contamination, and will result in:

- Protection of water quality in the adjacent waterways;
- Improved habitat for dependent wildlife including endangered and migratory species; and
- Improved visitor safety.

Duration: Well plugging will be completed within a year from the time funds are received, and will be considered a permanent fix for potential contamination.

More information on this activity can be found in Appendix A. Laguna Madre; Unique Identifier: DOI_RESTORE_003_049-051_Cat1.



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Cost: Category 1: \$1,317,567

Sponsor: Department of Interior

Project Status: Implementation

Purpose: The Railroad Commission of Texas and the National Park Service will plug 11 abandoned wells located at Padre Island National Seashore. While proper plugging of wells and reclamation of well sites involve relatively small land areas, they represent significant sources of petroleum pollution that can impact groundwater, springs and seeps, and surface water.



Gulf of Mexico



Map Date: October 07, 2015